

**CITY OF LOS ANGELES
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES
TUESDAY, APRIL 17, 2007**

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners convened at 3:09 p.m. in the Fire Commission Meeting Room, City Hall East, 200 N. Main Street, Los Angeles.

Present: President Dalila Sotelo, Vice President Jill Furillo, Commissioners Andrew Friedman, Genethia Hudley-Hayes and Casimiro U. Tolentino. Interim Fire Chief Douglas Barry and Deputy City Attorney Janet Jackson.

The flag salute was followed by a moment of silence in honor of past and present members of the Los Angeles Fire Department who devote their lives to the protection of the community.

1. PUBLIC COMMENT - None

2. COMMISSION BUSINESS

A. Approval of the Minutes - Regular Meeting of April 5, 2007

MOTION (Friedman/Tolentino): That the Board adopts the Minutes as submitted.

ADOPTED: AYES - 5 NAYS - 0

B. Board of Fire Commissioners Committee Reports:

1. Verbal status report from the Fire Commission Human Relation Development Committee (HRDC) – [Sotelo/Hudley-Hayes]

Commissioner Hudley-Hayes reported that the funding for the second part of the Wellness Program, Comprehensive Medicals Program had been reallocated. The Board discussed the matter with Department administration. The Board directed that a report be transmitted for consideration at a future meeting. Commissioner Hudley-Hayes reported on the Field Service Team-Human Relations Training, HRDC Account funding, CORE Training, reimbursement of funds for the Recruitment of Women DVD and an a funding request for five additional slots to attend the Women in Fire Service conference in Oakland.

2. [BFC 07-027] - Correspondence from the EEO Director dated April 4, 2007 requesting funding approval in the amount of \$1,920.00 to attend the California Association of Equal Rights Professionals Conference in San Diego, CA on June 6-8, 2007

Discussion regarding the need to send two additional Department staff members ensued.

MOTION (Hudley-Hayes/Tolentino): That the Board approves funding in the amount of \$1920.00 for Commission staff to attend the conference; and additional funding of up to \$1920.00 for two Department staff members to participate. **ADOPTED:** AYES - 5 NAYS - 0

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Vice President Furillo requested clarification on the process for requesting HRDC funding; discussion ensued on the matter. Commissioner Hudley-Hayes concluded that Department staff would like the process streamlined and that as long as the necessary criteria is contained in the staff reports, HRDC would be entertaining the recommended revisions.

- C. [BFC 07-002-S1] - Continued discussion and consideration of the procedure for notifying and updating the Board of Fire Commissioners of City Council/Committee Motions moving through the City process (Hudley-Hayes/Tolentino) - Postponed from February 27, 2007

Commissioner Hudley-Hayes indicated that she is satisfied with the existing tracking system and she does not require any changes at this time. However, she would like see full integration and coordination so that the Board is notified as soon as LAFD issues come up in Council. Discussion ensued regarding matters that are time sensitive and require Board input or oversight. Chief Barry is to consider the development of a more proactive administrative process that will addresses the Board's concerns. The report was received and filed.

- D. [BFC 05-088-S1] - Continued discussion and review of the Board of Fire Commissioners Standing Rules

President Sotelo said that the honorary guidelines were previously modified and need to be incorporated into the rules. A Fire Line Passes Annual Report will be forwarded to the Board for review.

MOTION (Furillo/Tolentino): That the Board adopts the revised Board of Fire Commissioners Standing Rules of February 27, 2007. **ADOPTED:** AYES - 5 NAYS - 0

3. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

(Taken out of order)

- A. Significant Incidents/Activities

Chief Barry reported on the Earthquake Preparedness Press Conference and Fire Station 59's community facility grand opening. Deputy Chief Rueda provided an overview of recent emergency incidents and deployment activity that occurred during the period of April 4th through April 16th. President Sotelo requested that a status report regarding the distribution of meals and replacement of boots for use during brush fires be provided to the Board. Commissioner Friedman reported on his participation at the Holocaust Memorial on Sunday, noting that the event was well represented by the LAFD.

- B. [BFC 07-029] - Review of the Information Requested by the Board of Fire Commissioners status report dated April 9, 2007

The Board discussed the status of the pending items with staff and President Sotelo established due dates for each item.

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- C. Discussion and consideration of LAFD matters scheduled before the City Council and Committees:

1. Verbal report on the disposition of matters considered/referred since the last Board Meeting

Assistant Chief Bercik indicated that a Council Motion was presented on Friday requesting the Department to report back on the Beverly Hills fire. Two items that were considered at Budget & Finance regarding the Pierce case were received and filed. On April 11th the Audits & Government Efficiency Committee requested a report on sworn firefighters; the Public Safety Committee requested information regarding the Beverly Hills fire.

2. [BFC 07-030] – Review of the Council Motion/Action Tracking – Active status report

Received and filed.

- D. [BFC 07-028] - Review of the Corrective Action Summary for the period of December 2006 through March 2007

Fire Chief Barry provided an overview of the report and discussed the compilation of the statistics with the Board. Commissioner Tolentino indicated that the Fire Commission Personnel Committee would be reviewing the report format and content at the request of the employee representatives.

- E. Verbal update on the pending promotional tests for Captain I, Captain II and Chief Exams

Fire Chief Barry indicated that the exams are underway and are at the three-whole score phase as per the Administrative Code process. President Sotelo requested that the promotional data on the expired lists be forwarded to the commissioners for their information.

4. ACTIVITIES/EVENTS/MEETINGS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Fire Chief Barry provided information on future events. He invited the Board to attend the LAFD State of Fire Department Press Conference on April 24th. President Sotelo announced the LA's Day of Service that will be held on April 28th and 29th. She indicated that in anticipation of the protest, the Board would consider rescheduling the May 1st meeting.

5. REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

President Sotelo requested that an update regarding the proposed Recognition Program be given at the 2nd meeting in May. Vice President Furillo requested an update on the City Controller's review of the Los Angeles Fire Department Dispatch Staffing and Special Duty Assignments be provided at the next meeting.

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- 6. CLOSED SESSION** -The Board convened into closed session at 4:56 p.m. to consider the following:
- A. The Board will convene in Closed Session Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(a) to confer with Legal Counsel on the following pending litigation case:
 - Bressler, Lee, et al. vs. City of LA et al, BC 336783
 - Malais vs City of Los Angeles, WCAB VNO 345845
 - Pierce vs. City of Los Angeles, BC 345845

The Board reconvened into open session at approximately 5:35 p.m. City Attorney Jackson reported that the Board had convened in closed session pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(a) to confer with Legal Counsel on pending litigation the above noted cases and that no action had been taken.

ADJOURNMENT - The meeting was adjourned at 5:36 p.m. (Hudley-Hayes/Tolentino)

ATTEST BY:

JILL FURILLO, Vice President

BLANCA GOMEZ-REVELLES
Commission Executive Assistant II

Date: May 15, 2007

Note: Actions of the Board shall become final at the expiration of the next five meeting days of the City Council during which the Council has convened in regular session, unless the Council acts within that time by two-thirds vote to bring the action before it or to waive review of the action.